

Amendment to specification

Please amend paragraph [0004] of the specification as follows :

Several attempts have already been made in the prior art to generate images incorporating information at the microstructure level where from far away mainly the global image is visible and from nearby mainly the microstructure is visible. A method hereinafter called "Artistic Screening" was disclosed in US patent No. 6,198,545 (inventors : V. Ostromoukhov, R.D. Hersch, filed March 27, 1995) and in the article by V. Ostromoukhov, R.D.Hersch, "Artistic Screening", Siggraph95, Proc. Computer Graphics, Annual Conference Series pp. 219-228. Another method hereinafter called "Multicolor Dithering method" was disclosed in US patent application 09/477,544 (inventors : V. Ostromoukhov, R.D. Hersch, filed Jan. 4, 2000) and in the article by V. Ostromoukhov, R.D. Hersch, "Multi-Color and Artistic Dithering", Siggraph'99, Computer Graphics Proceedings, Annual Conference Series, 1999, pp. 425-432. A further method for incorporating a microstructure into an image by computing color differences is disclosed in European Patent application 99 114 740.6 (inventors R.D.Hersch, N. Rudaz, filed July 28, 1999). An additional method for creating microstructures within an image relies on a large dither matrix whose successive threshold levels represent the microstructure and uses standard dithering to render the final image (see for example the paper by Oleg Veryovka and John Buchanan, Halftoning with Image-Based Dither Screens, Graphics Interface Proceedings, 1988-99, Ed. Scott MacKenzie and James Stewart, Morgan Kaufmann Publ. or <http://www.graphicsinterface.org/proceedings/1999/106/>).